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tion. As in the case with the water cultures the limits of variation with the mud bacteria varied widely. In one instance only (forty-five feet deep) were no bacteria found in spore condition.

These results accord in a general way with those made in the Mediterranean and show that while the water and underlying sea floor are filled with bacterial life, they are by no means in an entirely quiescent condition. Both water and mud are peopled with micro-organisms that are undergoing their cycle of development here as elsewhere.

(To be continued.)

*University of Wisconsin.*

## BRIEFER ARTICLES.

**Vacation collecting.**—I have spent the month of August at Sakonnet Point, Little Compton, R. I. For one week I had the company of Mr. James L. Bennett, who I found had made an extended list of the plants of the region. Among the interesting species are *Senebiera Coronopus* in great abundance; *Woodwardia angustifolia*, quite plentiful but not in fruit; and all the queer abnormal varieties conceivable of *Onoclea sensibilis*.

There is a swamp wood near the house where I am stopping, full of *Ilex opaca* of large size. *I. glabra*, *I. laevigata*, and *I. verticillata*, also occur. There is a perfect tangle of *Mikania scandens*, growing high up into the trees. It is rich botanizing all through this swamp. Nowhere did I ever see more brilliant *Lobelia cardinalis*. We find over forty trees about here, the oak being especially well represented. On all the meadow lands near the sea one finds quantities of *Anagallis arvensis*. The splendid *Hibiscus Moscheutos* grows in the salt marshes. I have found no *Sabbatias*. As curious strays have been picked up now and then in the neighboring town of Tiverton, I am on the lookout for them here. I might say that *Physostegia Virginiana* is quite common on the roadsides.

In the middle of the swamp wood before mentioned, near a lovely brook, I found a boulder thus inscribed: "To the Memory of Awerstronks, Queen of the Sakonnates, and Friend of the Whiteman." I have spent many happy hours in this secluded spot.

In the early summer I botanized extensively about Mt. Wachusett in company with Mr. J. F. Collins. Afterwards I explored the Taconics with the Harrison brothers, of Lebanon Springs.—W. WHITMAN BAILEY, *Providence, R. I.*